The Post-9/11 GI Bill

(chapter 33 of title 38 U.S.C.)

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U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Education Service
Washington, D.C.

Important Notice from NGB-EDU

- DISCLAIMER:
  - The effective date of the new Post 9/11 GI Bill is 1 August 2009.
  - This slide show was developed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA), Education Service.
  - Many provisions of this law are undergoing legal review.
  - Visit http://www.gibill.va.gov for the latest information.
  - The Army National Guard cannot publish policy regarding the new Post 9/11 GI Bill until we receive published guidance from the Department of Defense.

Objectives

This presentation will provide you with the following:

- An overview of the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit
- An understanding of how this program differs from and impacts other VA education benefits

Eligibility Criteria

Individuals who served on active duty after 09/10/01 will be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill if the individual—

- Served at least 30 continuous days and was discharged due to a service-connected disability, or
- Served for an aggregate period ranging from 90 days to 36 months.

Eligibility Criteria

Service Requirements (after 9/10/01 an individual must serve an aggregate of)	% of Maximum Benefit Payable
At least 36 months	100
At least 30 continuous days on active duty (Must be discharged due to service-connected disability)	100
At least 30 months, but less than 36 months	90
At least 24 months, but less than 30 months	80
At least 18 months, but less than 24 months	70
At least 12 months, but less than 18 months	60
At least 06 months, but less than 12 months	50
At least 90 days, but less than 06 months	40

Eligibility Criteria

Qualifying active duty does not include the following:

- NOAA, Public Health Service (PHS), Title 32 AGR; or
- Service Academy Contract Period; or
- ROTC contract period under 10 U.S.C. 2107(b); or
- Service terminated due to an erroneous or defective enlistment; or
- Service used for loan repayment; or
- Selected Reserve Service used to establish eligibility under 30, 1606, or 1607.*

* The inclusion of the reference to Chapter 1606 and the term "Selected Reserve" in this section of the law are undergoing legal review.

(see slide 16 for Chapter 33 election information)

Eligibility Criteria

In order to retain eligibility, after meeting the service requirements, an individual must —

- Continue on active duty; or
- Be honorably discharged from Armed Forces; or

Eligibility Criteria

- Be honorably discharged and placed on retired list, temporary disability retired list, or transferred to Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Corps Reserve; or
- Be honorably discharged for further service in a reserve component; or
- Be discharged or released for EPTS (Existed Prior to Service), HDSP (Hardship), or CIWD (Condition

Period of Eligibility

In general, individuals will remain eligible for benefits for 15 years from the date of last discharge or release from active duty of at least 90 continuous days.

Entitlement

Individuals will generally receive 36 months of benefits. However, individuals are limited to 48 months of combined benefits under educational assistance programs administered by VA.

NOTE: Individuals transferring to the Post-9/11 GI Bill from the Montgomery GI Bill (chapter 30) will be limited to the amount of remaining chapter 30 entitlement.

Benefit Payments

- Established Charges
- Monthly Housing Allowance
- Stipend for Books and Supplies

Established Charges

- Individuals are eligible for the applicable percentage (based on aggregate active duty service) of the lesser of—
  - Established charges; or
  - Highest amount of established charges for full-time, undergraduate training at a public Institution of Higher Learning (IHL) in the State the student is attending.

Monthly Housing Allowance

- Equivalent to BAH for an E-5 with dependents
  - Amount determined by zip code of the IHL where the student is enrolled
  - Prorated based on the percentage of the maximum benefit payable
  - Active duty and anyone training at ½ time or less, and those pursuing distance learning are not eligible for the monthly housing allowance

Books and Supplies Stipend

- Up to a $1,000 per year
- Paid proportionally for each quarter, semester, or term attended
- Prorated based on the percentage of the maximum benefit payable
- Active duty members are not eligible

Yellow Ribbon Program

- IHLs may voluntarily enter into an agreement with VA to pay established charges not covered under chapter 33
- VA will match each additional dollar funded by the school
- The combined amounts may not exceed the full cost of the school's established charges
- Only individuals entitled to the 100 percent benefit rate (based on service requirements) may receive this funding

Chapter 33 Elections

An individual who has met the requirements to establish eligibility under chapter 33 and, as of August 1, 2009 is

- Eligible for either chapter 30, 1606*, or 1607; or
- A member of the Armed Forces and making the basic $1200 contribution toward chapter 30; or
- A member of the Armed Forces who previously declined to elect chapter 30

must make an *irrevocable* election to use benefits under chapter 33.

* The inclusion of the reference to Chapter 1606 in this section of the law is undergoing legal review.

Refund of Contributions

- A proportional amount of the basic $1200 contribution will be included in the last monthly housing allowance payment when chapter 33 entitlement exhausts.
- Individuals who do not exhaust entitlement under chapter 33 will not receive a refund of contributions paid under chapter 30.
- Refund of $600 additional contributions is not authorized.

Approved Programs

- All programs approved under chapter 30 *and* offered at an IHL
- Individuals who were previously eligible for chapter 30, 1606, or 1607 may continue to receive benefits for approved programs not offered by IHLs (i.e. flight, correspondence, APP/OJT, preparatory courses, and national tests)

Transfer of Entitlement

(Department of Defense Benefit)

- On or after August 1, 2009, DoD may allow an individual to elect to transfer entitlement to one or more dependents if he/she—
  - Has served at least 6 years in the Armed Forces; and
  - Agrees to serve at least another 4 years in the Armed Forces

- DoD determines eligibility for transferability and may, by regulation, impose additional eligibility requirements and limit the number of months transferable.

Chapter 33 Effective Date

August 1, 2009

Chapter 33 benefits can be paid for training pursued on or after August 1, 2009. No payments may be made for training pursued before that date.

References

- GI BILL Website (http://www.gibill.va.gov)
- Public Law 110-252 (pp. 35-64) (.pdf file)